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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/943,565 08/30/2001 G.E. Tornquist H0002286 2535

128 7590 02/25/2003

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EXAMINER

MOHANDESI, IRAJ A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/943,565

Applicant(s)

TORNQUIST ET AL.

Examiner

Iraj A Mohandesi

Art Unit

2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 February 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08/03/2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-7,9,12-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Adams US patent 5,850,138** in view of **Takano US patent 6,153,957**

Adams US patent 5,850,138.

Adams'138 discloses a generator assembly (column 3,line 31 Fig. 1) having an exciter (6,column 3,line 37 Fig.1) and a main generator with a rotor (9,column 3,line 39 Fig.1), a system on the rotor for electrically coupling windings (10,column 3,line 39)of the rotor to a plurality of DC sources (after half wave bridge) on the exciter (6,column 3,line 37Fig 1), wherein each of the DC sources has a respective first-voltage terminal and a respective second-voltage terminal (two terminals to connect the dc voltage to the rotor as shows inFig.1).

Adams'138 fails to teach a first conductive plate defining a first aperture, the first conductive plate being supported by the rotor and comprising, a first rotor winding terminal by which the first conductive plate is electrically coupled to the windings, and

a second conductive plate defining a second aperture, the second conductive plate being supported by the rotor and electrically insulated from the first conductive plate, the second conductive plate comprising, a second rotor winding terminal by which the second conductive plate is electrically coupled to the windings.

Takano'957 discloses a terminal construction (24, Fig. on front page) for providing the electrical connections to the winding this connection is provided by a terminal plate comprised of an insulating base having conductive terminals (see obstruct) having a first conductive plate (24, column 3, line 14 Fig. 1, 3) defining a first aperture (the hole in center Fig. on front page), the first conductive plate (51, column 5, line 57 Fig. 1) being supported by the rotor and comprising, a first rotor winding terminal by which the first conductive plate is electrically coupled to the windings (23, column 5, line 40), and a second conductive plate (52, column 5, line 57 Fig. 1) defining a second aperture, the second conductive plate being supported by the rotor and electrically insulated from the first conductive plate, the second conductive plate comprising, a second rotor winding terminal by which the second conductive plate is electrically coupled to the windings (23, column 5, line 40), a first insulating ring (49, column 5, line 58) between the first conductive ring and the second conductive ring that electrically insulates the first conductive ring from the second conductive ring, wherein the first insulating ring is also supported by the rotor (see Fig. 1) a second insulating ring (34, column 3, line 64 Fig. 1) between the first conductive ring and the rotor that electrically insulates the first conductive ring from the rotor, the first and second conductive rings are inherently made from metal, and the first and second insulating rings are made of a dielectric material (

column 3,line 65, plastic material " plastic is a dielectric material "),the first conductive ring is attached with adhesive to the first and second insulating rings (column 4,line 25, "adhesive layer), and wherein the first insulating ring is further attached with adhesive to the second conductive ring.

With regards to claims 8 and 10,11. it would have been obvious to one having skill in the art at the time the invention was made as an obvious matter of design choice to construct the shape of the conducting ring triangular with the same thickness or different thickness since applicant has not disclosed that the triangular shape or different thickness of the conducting ring solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose and it appears that the invention would perform equally well with a conducting ring having a circular shape.

Communication

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Iraj A Mohandesi whose telephone number is (703) 305-3242. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on 703-308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

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February 23, 2003


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